



## News Notes

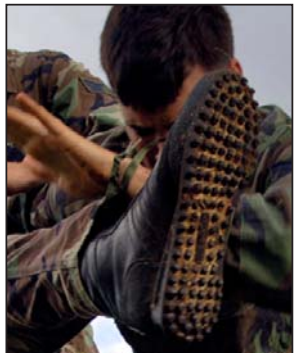
**Commanders call** – The quarterly wing commanders call is Monday at the Memorial Theater. Attendance is mandatory at one of the following three sessions: 9 a.m., 1 p.m. or 3 p.m. At the end of commander's call, Life skills will brief the annual Suicide Prevention/Violence Awareness Training. Attendance will count toward the annual training requirement. Members must bring their I.D. cards to receive credit.

**Earth Day clean up opportunity** – Moku o Waialua Watershed Action Group, Inc. and Save the Sea Turtles International invite the community, beach lovers and honu huggers to join them as they celebrate this Earth Day by cleaning up the reefs and shoreline of Pu'uiki Point on April 22 and 23 at Pu'uiki Point in Waialua. This clean-up effort entails manual labor and, if available, extra equipment you may have around your yard (i.e. wheel barrel, gloves, garbage bags, etc.). Capt. Elisa Amantiad will provide more details on a meeting place (and a cook-out location [post-clean up] for interested individuals). Sign up for one or both days by e-mailing her at elisa.amantiad@hickam.af.mil or by calling 449-0574.

**Hickam Youth Fest** – In observance and celebration of April as the Month of the Military Child, Child Abuse Prevention Month, and Alcohol Awareness Month, the Hickam Community Action team is hosting the Hickam Youth Fest April 28 at the community center. Crafts, games, and activities for children up to 2-years-old will be available from 9 to 11 a.m. and 2 to 5 p.m. for children 3 years old and up.

**Blood drive** – Team Hickam and the 15th MSS are sponsoring a blood drive April 27 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Hickam Community Center. Walk-ins are welcome; however, See **NOTES, A7**

### In this week's Kukini



**Combat training**  
**B1**

<b>Classifieds</b>	B9-12
<b>Crossword</b>	B2
<b>Movies</b>	B3
<b>Perspective</b>	A2
<b>Services</b>	A10

# Entertainers circle globe

By Kirsten Tacker  
Kukini photojournalist

The Patriot World Tour 2006 ended its ambitious 26,000 miles in 13 days of entertaining the troops on Hickam Monday night.

The show featured country legend Lee Greenwood, country rockers Restless Heart, emcee Mary Therese "TV Personality of the year" for 2005, the New England Patriots cheerleaders and comedian Dick Hardwick, who all hoped to bring a little piece of home and a million thanks to the troops on each base.

Including the musicians from the Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve, the U.S. Air Forces in Europe Band, the Band of the Pacific and the United States Air Force Band, who performed at Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, Kadena AB, Japan, Kunsan AB, Korea, Misawa AB, Japan and three deployed locations in South-west Asia and Hickam.

"This has been the most awesome tour of all the tours I have done," said emcee Mary Therese. "It is the camaraderie and that we are all in sync with each other, not that the past ones haven't been."

This was Mary Therese's eighth tour since 2000, she's a retired news anchor for a CBS affiliate in Macon, Georgia and the daughter of an Air Force recruiter who knows the military life all too well, moving 21 times before the age of 21.

"To be able to go and perform on these tours is so incredible, because there are millions of people back



Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Shane A. Cuomo

**Lee Greenwood says good-bye and thank you to Team Hickam during the final show of the 2006 Patriot World Tour at Freedom Tower Mall April 17. The**

**Patriot World Tour featured Lee Greenwood, country rockers Restless Heart, comedian Dick Hardwick and New England Patriots cheerleaders.**

home that would love the opportunity as the average American to go and say thanks," said Mary Therese. "So we are bringing millions of thanks with us."

Restless Heart has had 22 years of making music and this tour for them is one small slice of showing their gratitude. They've done two United Service Organization tours prior to this one, but this is their first time performing in a war zone.

"This one is literally a world tour for us and wow it has been amaz-

ing," said lead singer Larry Stewart for Restless Heart. "The intense part is flying 26,000 miles in 13 days. There has been a lot of sleeping on the plane, but you know what? It is an experience we will never forget and we knew it was going to be this way. It's just been incredible."

Some of the motivating factors to play a part in such an intense tour seemed obvious to Mr. Stewart.

"Meeting folks in the hospitals that are giving it their all, if we can

make them smile and forget what they are really doing for a moment or an instant in a performance or a visit," said Mr. Stewart. "To me you know, that the show is making a difference and that is why we are here."

Even though the performers on this tour have taken part in tours prior to this one, performing in a war zone was a new experience.

"It is definitely scary being in a

See **ENTERTAINERS, A4**

## A beautiful sunrise at Hickam Easter service



Photo Mark Bates

**Chaplain Kevin Browne leads the congregational singing for the annual Easter Sunrise Service at Hickam Harbor. The service, lead by Chaplain Dave Logan, fea-**

**tured an Easter sermon and a special musical presentation by guest artist Lee Greenwood. More than 250 people attended the event.**

## SaveAndInvest.org educates military

By Kirsten Tacker  
Kukini Photojournalist

SaveAndInvest.org, a financial education program to improve the saving and investing knowledge of military servicemembers and their families held a free forum for servicemembers of all ranks and levels of investing at the Hawaii Conven-

tion Center on Wednesday, April 12.

The forum and their web site offer tools and information needed to make critical saving and investing decisions. "Today will be a day where your confidence in managing your money will grow," said Elisse B. Walter, NASD executive vice president.

Their goal of the event

was geared toward raising the quality of life and increasing servicemembers confidence with money management. Also to beware of predatory lenders who end up with far too much of the military paycheck.

NASD's goal through education is for military families to have a life of wealth accumulation and

to avoid money drains, high interest loans, avoid debt accumulation and to pay down loans by making the best of each paycheck by paying themselves first.

"Financial readiness is key to military readiness, whether on or off base or deployed, it is crucial our military personnel achieve

See **SAVE, A4**

## Airmen retraining must comply by May 15

To meet the Fiscal 2006 Noncommissioned Officer Retraining Program objectives for 30 undermanned Air Force Specialty Codes, Airmen identified as retraining eligible must complete their retraining packages by May 15.

Nearly 1,100 Airmen who have not completed their administrative requirements face separation if they fail to comply with this Air Force policy.

"It's critical the Air Force balances the enlisted corps across all Air Force specialties to meet its mission requirements," said Maj. Gen. Tony Przybyslawski, Air Force Personnel Center commander here. "The NCO Retraining Program is a vital tool to ensure the Air Force has experienced NCOs serving in all career fields."

Airmen who decline retraining must separate on their current date of separation or when their term of service expires. They are ineligible for promotion, voluntary assignment consideration and reenlistment or extensions for the remainder of their enlistment. Declination may preclude Airmen from enlisting in another service branch or into the Air Force Reserve or Air

See **RETRAINING, A5**



# Proud to be an American

By Col. Bill “Goose” Changose  
15th Airlift Wing commander

This week, accompanying Mr. Lee Greenwood was country music group, Restless Heart, members of the New England Patriots cheerleaders, comedian Dick Hardwick, and members for the Combined Air Force Bands. This tour was all about showing an appreciation to the men and women of the armed services. If you were there you know what a fantastic show it was. If you weren't able to attend you missed a great event and we hope to see you next time.

Whether you were able to get to the show or not there's a bigger message we should all take away - the American people are truly proud of what you're doing. They understand the sacrifices you're making and wish you the best. Although they might not fully comprehend exactly what it's like to send a family member on a deployment they know that their safety and the security of the world is guaranteed by the men and women in our Armed Forces. When they hear about what you're doing either deployed, or in garrison they're simply amazed.

Sometimes we lose sight of just how important our jobs are. It's easy to get bogged down in everyday events and forget that no



Photo by Mark Bates

Senator Daniel Inouye, accompanied by Brig. Gen Peter Pawling, 154th Wing commander and Col. Bill “Goose” Changose, 15th Airlift Wing commander, on way to the C-17 Operations building after a static tour of the C-17.

matter what our job if we didn't do it well the mission would suffer and possibly fail. I ask you to take a moment to step back and reflect on how your duties fit into the Air Force's big picture. We have done a lot of work in recent years realigning, resizing, and reshaping our service so that we're the most powerful, flexible and lethal air and space force the world has ever known. If you're in the Air Force today then by definition what you do is important. Please don't forget that, the 26 performers who entertained us on Monday night won't.

Kudos to the men and women of the 15th Services Squadron for their outstand-

ing support and assistance in ensuring the show was a success. Events like that don't just happen. It takes a team of dedicated professionals to put it all together. They get extra credit for making it look easy. It is no surprise that they were recently announced as the Pacific Air Forces award winners in three categories, Youth Program of the Year, Library Program of the Year, and Resource Management Flight of the Year. Congratulations to the Services Team!

Sky Warriors I'll make my standard request. Please have a great weekend, please be safe, please be good wingmen.

# CCAF key to your future

By Chief Master Sgt. Kevin Ludwig  
8th Fighter Wing command chief

Have you ever heard the motto “the foundation of liberty is knowledge?” I hope you have, for this is the motto of the Community College of the Air Force, or CCAF.

Truer words were never spoken. Our pursuit of knowledge, along with life and work experiences, provides all that's necessary for us to unleash our talent, better develop our Airmen, execute our missions, command the future and ensure all are safe in doing so. Your pursuit of knowledge needs to start with earning a CCAF degree.

As early as 1972, our Air Force leaders envisioned that Air Force enlisted airmen would need improved educational programs to meet technological and leadership challenges. The result of this vision enabled CCAF to provide educational opportunities for us to combine technical training with general education course work from civilian-accredited colleges.

CCAF offers 66 degree programs in five general areas and has conferred more than 258,000 associate in applied science degrees. CCAF is the largest commu-

nity college in the world and is the only community college in the Department of Defense.

Why a CCAF degree? Many of us came into the Air Force because we wanted to do something better with our lives as we serve our country. A CCAF degree enables you to do just that. A CCAF degree has value — value for you and our Air Force.

CCAF allows us an opportunity to pursue our educational goals at the same time we serve. More than 82 percent of eligible regular Air Force enlisted Airmen are enrolled in CCAF. The Air National Guard nears 93 percent enrollment and Air Force Reserve Command has 88 percent.

Starting to feel like you're missing something if you are not enrolled in CCAF? You are! You are limiting our Air Force capabilities and more importantly, you are limiting yourself.

You can probably list pages of excuses as to why you haven't enrolled in or completed your CCAF degree. Excuses don't get the job done and tend to multiply the longer you delay. The time you invest in a CCAF education is an investment in yourself, your future and even your family. So, how do you start this

investment, this educational journey? Put down the remote and check out the CCAF on-line catalog and call the base education office.

You've got to want to complete your education. I believe a CCAF education directly correlates to leadership and better-prepared leaders.

Our Air Force promotes individuals with the potential to succeed at the next higher grade, so leave no doubt about your potential by having your CCAF degree complete.

Also, please don't spread the “notions” among our enlisted airmen that, “We're not officers and don't need a degree to get promoted” or “I didn't need a degree to enlist.” Agreed, there is no degree requirement to enlist in our Air Force. However, all things being equal between two enlisted members, I'll recommend the enlisted airmen with a CCAF degree every time. Why? I know they are better prepared, more technically competent and have improved problem-solving skills.

We live in a fast-paced and evolving society along with the increasing demands of our profession of arms. The secret to your success and ultimately the success of our Air Force is education!

## Action Line

The Action Line is your direct link to me so we can work as a team to make Hickam a better community. I urge you to use the normal chain of command first.

If you have done this and are still not satisfied, give my commander's Action Line a call. If you would like me to get back to you, leave your name and number, state your issue, tell me who you have talked to and why you were not satisfied with their response. I'll work your issue and respond verbally or in writing. The Action Line number is 449-2996. Messages may also be sent by e-mail to 15aw.pal@hickam.af.mil.

### Parking – Hickam Elementary

**Comment:** There is a problem due to a lack of parking around Hickam Elementary school since there are now residents only parking signs posted on the streets around the school. Since these signs have been posted it has reduced the parking to only a few spots in the Freedom Tower circle and I suppose up the street in front of the school. Parking on these roads is not a good idea as there is no sidewalk immediately next to the road, and there is more traffic on this road with a higher speed limit. Forcing the cars to weave around parked cars on these roads would pose a hazard. Will these signs be enforced all the time, only during school hours

or only on weekends. I often park near the school so my children can play at the playground or we can walk on the river walk, but since they can't park near these areas, it will be more difficult to access. What is the driving factor behind making the streets immediately in front of the school resident only parking? I have not seen any drive-ways blocked by people parking in on the street. There are many other places on base where the residents have to park in the street and these areas are not marked as residents only. There are many parents living around Onizuka Village that prefer to drive their children to school as opposed to riding in a hot school bus. There are days when my children walk, but more often than not, with three children we are running late, so I drive them to school. I also volunteer extensively at the school, so driving is usually my best option due to other errands I may have to accomplish during the day. My proposed solution would be to open up parking again along the roads that pass in front of the school, and if someone parks illegally on one of these roads give them a ticket. Thank you for your time and assistance.

**Response:** I appreciate your concerns and thank you for your recommendations. The Base Traffic Engineering Committee has evaluated the situation and is in the process of remov-

ing all resident only parking signs for the reasons you suggest. In addition, the Deputy Commander for Installation Support, 15th Mission Support Group, has assembled a special working group to develop traffic and parking improvements for the entire area. However, rather than implement changes near the end of the school year, the plan is to make the improvements during the summer in preparation for the next school year. If you have questions or additional concerns please contact the Base Traffic Engineer, Mr Dennis Yee, at 448-4440.

### Stop Sign at Kuntz Gate

**Comment:** I contacted the 15th Civil Engineer Squadron in April 2005 regarding the following two matters and they said they would get back to me at the end of the week. I waited a month and called again and again was told they would get back to me at the end of the week. Its' now a year later and this was what I asked to be corrected--there is a huge stop sign that hangs on the fence at Kuntz Gate that's there when they need to close the gate before the new gates were installed. People are constantly confused and don't know if they are supposed to stop or not. I requested the stop sign be covered until they needed to close the gate to prevent confusing motorists. Next, I

asked if arrows could be painted or a sign put up so that motorists would stop “exiting” out the “entrance” at the post office. Then two other things I didn't speak to them about, but I don't know who to talk to. Why is the Thrift Shop parking lot in such horrible, horrible condition? And why can't they paint those rusted brown buildings on Kuntz Ave. (Thrift Shop and ITT) to reflect Air Force Standards? Thank you for your time.

**Response:** Thank you for your concerns and recommendations. Our traffic engineer evaluated the situation at the Kuntz gate and the post office. The stop sign at Kuntz Gate is placed on the sliding gate for periods when the gate is closed. The sign is now located far enough from the edge of the road that it shouldn't create any confusion. With current placement several vehicles were observed passing through the gate without confusion. We agree that an arrow needs to be added to the entrance of the Post Office, and we will add it to the paint program. The Thrift Shop consignment parking lot has recently been paved and striped. Building 1711 which houses the Thrift Shop, ITT and the Airman's Attic was painted in 1995 and is currently scheduled for re-painting in 2009. I'm sorry for the delay in follow-up, but I encourage our base community to continue to utilize CE Customer Service at 449-9951.

## Hickam Diamond Tips



### Setting the Example

Often times it is easier for us to walk by an infraction and not correct it. Unfortunately when we do that, we indorse the negative behavior and allow it to continue. Uphold standards regardless of your rank or position. A SNCO walking around housing without a hat sends a message to all others that it is OK to violate AFI 36-2903. When the neighbor drives by that same SNCO without correcting him, he has then enforced the negative behavior. Do not allow this in “OUR” Air Force.

Questions? Contact your First Sergeant

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Hickam Kukini staff ..... 449-6789  
E-mail address .....hickam.kukini@hickam.af.mil  
Fax .....449-3017  
Kukini Online .....www2.hickam.af.mil/wingpa/news.html  
Advertising .....521-9111  
Hickam Straight Talk Line .....449-6789

### Hickam Kukini Editorial Staff

Col. William Changose ..... Commander, 15th AW  
1st Lt. Craig Savage ..... Chief, Public Affairs  
Staff Sgt. Tom Czerwinski .....Editor  
Kirsten Tacker ..... Photojournalist  
Sueann Carter ..... Layout/Design  
Joe Novotny ..... Technical Adviser

Deadline for copy is noon Thursday for the following Friday's issue. Copy must be typed, double-spaced 12-point type, 300 - 500 words in length, and e-mailed to hickam.kukini@hickam.af.mil.

### Crisis Response lines

Hickam Family Support Center  
449-0300  
Life Skills Support Center  
449-0175  
Law Enforcement Desk  
449-6373  
Base Chaplain  
449-1754  
Military Family Abuse Shelter  
533-7125  
SARC Hotline  
449-7272



# Hickam C-17 crews learn 'Lean Concepts'

**By Tech Sgt. Chris Vadnais**  
Air Force Print News

Airmen from the Hawaii Air National Guard's 154th Maintenance Squadron here are learning how to streamline the processes they'll use to maintain Hickam's new fleet of C-17 Globemaster IIIs.

Officials from the Boeing Company, which manufactures the C-17, headed the week-long Lean Concepts Workshop. The focus was the 120-day inspection maintenance teams will conduct to keep the jets running.

The idea is to carefully consider how to most effi-

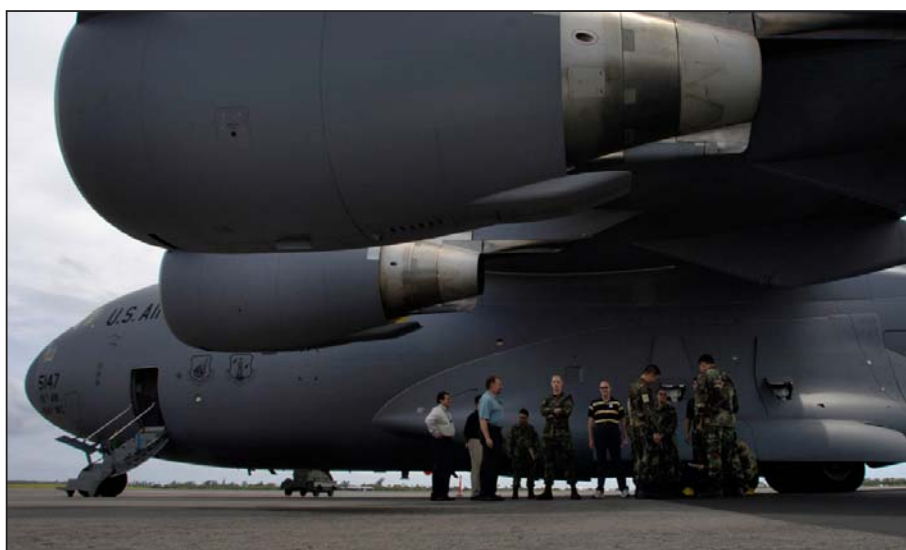
ciently handle routine maintenance procedures, leaving out any steps that might not be necessary. The teams also took into consideration the unique situation at Hickam, including the weather and the fact that there are as of yet no hangars for the aircraft.

"It's basically doing more with less," said Master Sgt. Edwin Kalilikane, who coordinated the workshop for the 154th MXS. "The ultimate goal is to minimize the downtime of the aircraft, comply with inspections, keep the aircraft in a safe and operational mode, you know, preventative maintenance kind of things."

The recent arrival of a fourth C-17 marked Hickam's graduation from a developing Airlift Wing with training assets to a fully operational unit – responsible to HQ Pacific Air Forces – and capable of handling warfighting and humanitarian relief efforts anywhere in the theater.

Keeping the brand new assets in top shape is a must. The Air Force can't afford to slack on maintaining the jets, but it also can't afford to waste time and resources with processes that don't contribute to their longevity.

"If it doesn't add value to the process we're going to try to eliminate it," said Sergeant Kalilikane.



Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Shane Cuomo

**Boeing Company representatives and Airmen from the 154th Maintenance Squadron, discuss issues and maintenance procedures for a C-17 Globemaster III at Hickam.**

# Hickam scout troop attacks beach

**By Ms. Nicole Clements**  
15th CES Environmental Restoration

In preparation for Earth Day, Hickam Boy Scout Troop 97 recently spent a Saturday beautifying Ahua beach, which lies between Foster's Point and Battery Hawkins on Hickam Air Force Base.

**EARTH DAY 2006**  
**Saturday, April 22**

The event was orchestrated by Eric Mooney, who preparing to fulfill a requirement to obtain the coveted Eagle Scout badge. The Scouts were able to provide community service and to learn about the importance of a healthy environment and ecosystem. "The event was a complete success. We were able to accomplish a lot more than I thought we could," said Mooney. This project was co-sponsored by the Hickam Environmental Planning department. "Cleaning up Ahua beach is a long-term goal for our department," said Mr. Gary O'Donnell, Chief of Environmental Planning, 15th CES.

Objectives for the beach cleanup included removing asphalt and old construction debris from the shore and moving the larger rocks and boulders to provide a retaining wall and help prevent future erosion. Armed with shovels, rakes, hand saws, and a lot of heart, the twelve volunteer Scouts and six adults removed roughly 2-tons of asphalt and concrete before noon. After a short lunch break, the ever-diligent volunteers were back at it again. By 3 p.m., the exhausted volunteers were more than ready to jump in some kayaks, provided free of



Photo by Nicole Clements

**Hickam's Boy Scout troop 97 prepares for Earth Day 2006 by cleaning up Ahua beach near Fosters Point at Hickam's waterfront. The team of 12 Boy Scouts and six adults removed two tons of trash and debris.**

charge by the Hickam's Services Squadron.

The volunteers worked very hard in the hot sun and moved several large rocks to form the base of the retaining wall. "I could not believe we were able to move some of those larger

rocks. I did not think it would be possible, but it was," said Mooney. "This project was a success as a result of thoughtful planning and management. That was the most difficult aspect," he added.

"The biggest obstacle was learning

to work together. Terrific team work allowed us to move huge rocks that otherwise would not even budge." Mr. O'Donnell stated, "I am grateful for the Boy Scouts' help and all of their hard work. They did a great job on this project."

## DoD directs SAPR for all members

Education and training are key to the success of the Department of Defense's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program. Training has been directed for all uniform members and civilians who supervise military. It has been incorporated into all entry points to include the academies as well as leadership development and professional military education programs.

Standard training definitions for sexual assault and sexual harassment are cornerstones of the department's training program. These terms have been used interchangeably, perpetuating the gray area that surrounds this topic and the confusion as to which actions constitute what offenses. Common definitions now create understandable expectations of how service members are to continually apply the military services' core ethics and values to prevent assaults.

Pre-deployment training has also been directed. It will help protect service members when they deploy by providing refresher training on prevention techniques as well as identification of available support systems and resources. It also serves to inform them of the cultural mores of the country they are deploying to as well as any coalition partners they will be working with.

Additionally, the department has mandated pre-command training. This is critical as commander support directly impacts the success of local programs. This training focuses on the distinct duties and responsibilities that enable commanders to establish an environment that prevents sexual assaults.

For more information about the DoD Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program and service specific resources visit us online at: [www.sapr.mil](http://www.sapr.mil). Contact your local Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) for information about your local sexual assault prevention and response program.

Team Hickam's SARC's are Capt. Samantha Haberlach, [Samantha.Haberlach@hickam.af.mil](mailto:Samantha.Haberlach@hickam.af.mil) and Capt. Jonathan M. Joshua, [Jonathan.Joshua@hickam.af.mil](mailto:Jonathan.Joshua@hickam.af.mil). You can reach the SARC by calling, 449-SARC (7272) or at 520-3403 24 hours a day.

# Reservists' benefits bridge to civilian life

**By Mark Jecker**  
TriWest Healthcare Alliance

For many National Guard and Reserve service members leaving active duty, TRICARE offers a health care bridge to civilian life.

Reserve Component members and their families may be covered for 180 days of TRICARE health care benefits under the Transitional Assistance Management Program, called TAMP.

TAMP coverage begins on the separation date and provides TRICARE Standard, TRICARE Extra or TRICARE Prime health care coverage.

To qualify for TAMP benefits, Reserve Component members must be:

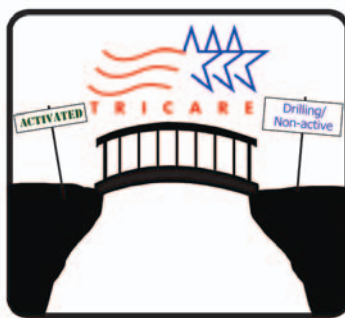
- Involuntarily separating from active duty under honorable conditions.
- Separating from an active duty

period of more than 30 days in support of a contingency operation.

- Separating from active duty following involuntary retention (Stop-Loss) in support of a contingency operation.
- Separating from active duty following a voluntary agreement to stay on active duty for less than one year in support of a contingency operation.

Each service branch determines eligibility for these transitional benefits. If separating from active duty, contact the nearest service personnel office to verify eligibility.

Those living in TRICARE Prime service areas may choose the Prime option. Enrollments received by the 20th of the month will be effective at the start of the following month and initial enrollment may not be retroactive to the service separation date.



To maintain existing TRICARE Prime coverage, complete and submit a new Prime enrollment form before separation. There is no cost for enrollment during this period. The benefit remains the same as for active duty family members with minimal out of pocket costs.

Those living outside Prime service areas may use TRICARE Standard and TRICARE Extra during the TAMP period and are only

responsible for the co-payment of 20 percent for TRICARE Standard and 15 percent for TRICARE Extra.

Details of all three options are provided at [www.triwest.com](http://www.triwest.com) and [www.tricare.osd.mil](http://www.tricare.osd.mil).

Former active duty and Reserve Component members eligible for transitional benefits may receive dental care at military dental treatment facilities on a space-available basis. Family members are not eligible for dental care at these facilities.

Civilian dental care is not covered for sponsors or family members under TAMP, but certain Reserve Component members and their families may receive dental care by enrolling in the TRICARE Dental Program (TDP). Contact the TDP administrator, United Concordia Companies Inc. at (800) 866-8499 or at [www.ucci.com](http://www.ucci.com) for more information.



## ENTERTAINERS, From A1

combat zone, but I have full confidence in my security because the Air Force is doing such a great job,” said Alison Preston, New England Patriots Cheerleader. “This is actually my fifth tour and it is the best experience that I’ve ever had. It is not the fact that we get to travel. It is the fact that we get to meet so many military men and women.”

That seems to be the common thread that unites these performers, a passion for the military and all that they do and to simply say thank you.

“I have great affection for those folks that put it on the line,” said Mr. Greenwood. “This is my 18th tour and my motivation is to do what we can do to support the U.S. military no matter where they are on the planet. That doesn’t necessarily mean war zones, but in this case we are at war.”

Not since Bob Hope has someone been allowed to do the kind of filming they’ve done on this particular tour.

“We have strict editing guidelines that we will use for the secrecy of some of the missions and the equipment we’ve seen, but we’ll follow those and edit this in May and hopefully have it aired on Memorial Day,” said Mr. Greenwood. “So the public at home can see the sacrifices of the people that have given their lives and wounded, and see the mission and how we are accomplishing it in the Middle East.”

Mr. Greenwood has shown his military affection in other ways besides touring. He wears the red metal bracelet of John Consolvo Jr., a Marine pilot MIA who went down in Vietnam, because it was given to him.

For Mr. Greenwood, Ms. Preston, Mary Therese, Dick Hardwick and Restless Heart the tour is over, what remains are memories and a few additional words of thanks to the troops.

“Thank you for what you do, it was an honor to be here and perform for you,” said Mr. Stewart. “The tour has been incredible, it has been a trip of a lifetime for all of us. We appreciate what you do.”

“We are out here for only two weeks and we are just trying to boost some



Photo by Mark Bates

**The New England Patriots cheerleaders and country rockers Restless Heart perform for Team Hickam at Freedom Tower Mall April 17, during the Patriot World Tour. Hickam was the final stop on their world-wide tour.**

morale,” said Ms. Preston. “Make some people happy and bring a little piece of home to them because they are working so hard for us. It is important for us to go out there and tell them we do appreciate what you are doing.”

“Thanks so much for what you do,” concluded Mary Therese. “We are all

able to do what we do in our everyday lives, whether it is being a reporter, singer-songwriter or a bus driver. We can all do what we do everyday, because you all get up in the morning and put that uniform on and you say, ‘I am doing this for my fellow Americans’. They just don’t get thanked enough.”

## SAVE, From A1

financial security and independence,” said Rear Admiral Michael C. Vitale, USN. “To do that they need to have access to financial information that will enable them to make prudent saving and investment decisions for themselves and their families. The mission today is to improve our saving and investing knowledge.”

At SaveAndInvest.org individuals can learn more about the Thrift Savings Plan and other retirement planning. Research a broker’s background with BrokerCheck. Read investor alerts for information on how to protect money. Get tips to help prepare finances for moves or deployments. Find tools to compare college savings plans, mutual funds and bonds. Explore a searchable database of financial questions and answers.

Their site helps first time investors and advanced investors do their initial homework, identify investment objectives, analyze financial factors and understand risk. In essence it offers tool to help demystify investing.

“I learned people should start investing as soon as they have a savings to do so and try and get out of debt,” said Tech. Sgt. Mike Sneed, 56th Air and Space Command Squadron. “I came here to get some specific information for investing in mutual funds, tax-free IRA stuff.”

Another key point made



photo by Kirsten Tacker

**Sen Daniel Akaka talks to a group about financial management at seminar**

during the forum is if something sounds to good to be true, it is.

Rounding off before the lunch break was U.S. Senator Daniel Akaka a World War II Veteran, a leading advocate for economic and financial literacy that co-sponsored the forum in support of all military.

“You will leave today with these sessions, with more confidence then you had managing your money,” concluded Senator Akaka. As he exited the forum he shook the hands of the audience members.

NASD and the NASD Investor Education Foundation do not sell investment products, promote products or firms, or offer specific investment advice.

# Legal assistance Q and A

**Question:** I will be filing for divorce in the near future. What are some military issues that I should be aware of during this process?

**Answer:** There are several important issues to be mindful of when a military couple divorces. Such issues include state court jurisdiction; division of military retirement benefits; direct payment of military retired pay, alimony and child support through DFAS; the beneficiary’s status for the Survivor Benefit Plan; retention of medical and other military benefits for the non-military spouse; the retention of military benefits by the children; and issues that arise as a result of military travel.

**State Court Jurisdiction**

A state court will not take action in a divorce case unless it has jurisdiction. Generally, a state court only has jurisdiction over its own residents. In Hawaii, at least one party to the divorce must have lived within the state for six months. A court may have jurisdiction to determine some, but not all, of the issues arising in a divorce action. For example, if the military spouse lives in a different state, a court may exercise its jurisdiction to terminate the marriage by issuing a divorce decree, but it may not have jurisdiction to divide the military retirement as part of the property settlement.

**Division of Retired Pay**

As mentioned in the previous paragraph, state courts have the authority to treat military retired pay as marital property under the Uniformed Services Former Spouses’ Protection Act, USFSPA. This does not mean that state courts must divide military retired pay



as part of the property settlement. However, Hawaii is one of the many states that frequently divide military retired pay.

**Direct Pay from DFAS**

Under certain circumstances, USFSPA provides for direct pay of child support, alimony and retired pay from DFAS. To be entitled to direct pay for child support and alimony, the former spouse will need a court order directing payment of child support and/or alimony. To receive retirement pay directly from DFAS, the marriage must have lasted 10 years or more during the same time the military member served 10 or more years towards retirement. For more information on what DFAS requires, go to <http://www.dod.mil/dfas/militarypay/garnishment.html>. Direct payment of retirement pay is limited to 50 percent of “disposable retired pay.”

**Survivor Benefits Plan**

The Survivor Benefits Plan becomes an issue when a party to a divorce is a military member that is retired or will be retiring in the near future. After the divorce, the military member can elect to continue with the coverage of a former spouse if the spouse was a beneficiary prior to the divorce. At the time of the divorce, the military member may also agree to

name the ex-spouse as the beneficiary. Such an agreement should be written, signed by both parties, notarized, and included in the divorce decree and property settlement. Regardless of whether the parties reach an agreement, the court can require a military member to convert coverage or elect coverage of an ex-spouse under the SBP.

**Military Benefits**

Military benefits are often a huge concern during a divorce. Un-remarried former spouses retain their medical, commissary, theater, and exchange privileges only if they were married to a military member for at least 20 years, the member performed at least 20 years of creditable service in determining eligibility for retired pay, and there was 20 years of marriage overlapping 20 years of creditable service. Un-remarried former spouses retain their medical care for one year, with an option to participate in a group insurance plan with limited coverage for one additional year if they were married for 20 years, to a member with 20 years of creditable service, and with at least 15 years of marriage overlapping the 20 years of service. Under the 20/20/15 rule, medical coverage ends after two years. No commissary, theater, and exchange privi-

leges are authorized. After the divorce, unmarried children under 21 retain their entitlement to medical care. Unmarried children over 21, but enrolled full time in an accredited institution of higher learning retain their medical care until graduation or the age of 23, whichever is earlier. After the divorce is final, children living in the home of a former spouse, who is no longer entitled to commissary privileges, also lose their commissary privileges. Children retain their exchange and theater privileges while they remain dependent upon their sponsor for over 50 percent of their support.

**Military Travel**

PCSs and deployments can affect child visitation and the payment of alimony and/or child support. The divorce decree needs to be clear as to who will finance the child’s long distance visits to the non-custodial parent and what effect a long distance PCS or deployment will have on the visitation schedule. The divorce decree should also explain how the issue of alimony and child support payments will be revisited as the military member’s BAH and COLA fluctuate with each PCS.

*Dear JAG questions may be submitted to the box located in the lobby of the Hickam AFB Legal Office or send E-mail to [v315aw.ja@hickam.af.mil](mailto:v315aw.ja@hickam.af.mil). Information contained in the Dear JAG articles should not be relied upon as a substitute for seeking legal advice for your particular situation. General Legal Assistance is available for eligible beneficiaries on Mondays from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. on a walk-in basis.*



**Theft of private property**

An active duty Air Force member reported his father-in-law’s vehicle was stolen from an off-base location along with his vehicle base decal affixed to the vehicle.

**Hit and run/damage to private property**

An active duty Navy member notified security forces and reported his vehicle sustained scratches and paint transfers that might have been caused by another vehicle. Estimated cost damage: \$1500.

**Shoplifting**

An Army member was detained by Army Air Force Exchange Service store detectives for shoplifting. Total cost of stolen merchandise: \$79.95.

**Theft of government property**

An Air Force civilian employee notified security forces and reported numer-

ous traffic cones were stolen from the Hickam Vet clinic parking lot. A report was filed. Estimated cost of stolen merchandise: \$176.

**Shoplifting**

An Air Force family member was detained by Army Air Force Exchange Service store detectives for shoplifting. Total cost of stolen merchandise: \$564.

**Trespassing**

An active duty Air Force member notified Security Forces and reported he had seen an individual who was officially barred from base waiting for a flight at the AMC terminal. The individual was apprehended and transported to the law enforcement desk.

**Shoplifting**

An Air Force family member was detained by Army Air Force Exchange Service store detectives for shoplifting.

## RETRAINING, From A1

National Guard. In addition, the Air Force will not score promotion tests for Airmen who tested as of May 15 and declined retraining.

“Airmen must commit to retrain now, because those who wait too long will be separated,” said Col. Kurt Pfitzner, chief of the personnel process and development division at AFPC.

The two-phased Fiscal 2006 NCORP is a multi-purpose program designed to rebalance the enlisted force by moving NCOs from

career fields with overages to those skills experiencing manpower shortages. It included a voluntary retraining phase that ended in October and an involuntary phase which began Nov. 30 and is still in effect. To date, the Air Force has only retrained 442 Airmen toward the Air Staff goal of 1,069.

For more information regarding retraining policy, Airmen should contact their base military personnel flight or major command retraining office.





Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt Shane Cuomo

Senior Airman Ronald McFarlin serves customers at pass and ID office, after spending six months away.

# Being an Airman is universal at home base or AOR

By Tech Sgt. Chris Vadnais  
Air Force Regional News Center – Pacific

**HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE, Hawaii** – If you ask Senior Airman Ronald McFarlin what he likes most about being a member of the 15th Security Forces, he'll tell you "we're there when you need us."

The Air Force needed him at Al Dhafra Air Base in the United Arab Emirates, and he was there. He just returned from a six-month deployment.

"I joined the military to see the world; this was my opportunity," he said. "Regardless if the timing wasn't necessarily what I wanted it to be or necessarily the length that I wanted to be gone," he smiled. "Once I was there, I was there. I had fun, I made the best of it, the time went by and I'm happy to be home."

At home, SrA McFarlin works at Hickam's Pass and Registration office. It's a busy place, but much different than the vehicle

search area at Al Dhafra. That 24-hour operation is responsible for securing the entire installation.

"We're searching for explosives, we're searching for any type of intel that is being transferred on and off base ... intel from the bad guy or our own intel getting off the base," he said.

After spending six months away from his family in a somewhat hostile environment, SrA McFarlin came to a conclusion.

"The job is the same here for me as in the AOR. It's like our commander always says, you know your job, you do your job, be professional. It doesn't matter where you're at, you can't go wrong if you do that," he said.

SrA McFarlin will likely deploy for another six months sometime relatively soon. When the Air Force needs him he'll be there, and this time he'll leave armed with more than his weapon. He'll also have the knowledge and experience he earned on his first deployment.

# MS walk draws strong military support from Team Hickam

By 1st Lt. Renee Lee  
Headquarters PACAF Public Affairs

More than 100 Team Hickam members participated in the 2006 MS Walk by volunteering and made up the majority of the event volunteers, at Ala Moana Beach Park April 8.

The 3-mile walk is an annual event, drawing 200,000 participants each year, hosted by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and is held in over 600 sites across the United States each spring to raise funds for research programs, client programs and professional education.

There were 189 total volunteers for the walk from different organizations such as Chaminade University, Sacred Hearts Academy and 108 members from Team Hickam alone, including active duty airmen and dependants.

The duties of the volunteers included handing out goody bags to walkers, delivering set up equipment and setting everything up, ensuring the safety and security of those participating, parking patrol and tear down, according to Master Sgt Tom Hodson, MS Walk volunteer chair.

Sergeant Hodson has been involved with the MS Walk once before. He got involved with the MS Walk after his wife had a scare with the debilitating disease two years ago. "I thought to myself at that point ... I want to do something that will ensure the best research and help are out there for people with MS," he said. "I can't imagine myself living through MS without some hope or help for that matter."

Multiple sclerosis is a chronic unpredictable neurological disease that can cause blurred vision, loss of balance, poor coordination, slurred speech, tremors, numbness, extreme fatigue, problems with memory and concentration, paralysis and blindness. These problems may be permanent or they may come and go. Most people with MS are diagnosed



Photo by Paul Saki

Finishers in the 2006 Walk for Multiple Sclerosis stride across the finish line of the 3-mile course. Over \$30,000 was raised to help combat MS in Hawaii.

between the ages of 20 and 50.

Local resident Ron Pedersen, who is affected with MS every day, has been involved in spreading MS awareness since he was diagnosed in 2002. Prior to being diagnosed with MS, he led an active lifestyle professionally by running a family business and personally as a busy father of four.

"It's heart warming to see strong military support," said Pedersen. "I see the contributions our armed forces make in the communities they are based in and often times don't get the recognition deserved for putting one's life on the line, while worrying about others. It's amazing how supportive everyone has been and how motivated they are to help in some way."

The National MS Society Hawaii division has approached the military over the past few years for volunteer help. "It shows that we are key players in this community," said Sergeant Hodson. "It

shows how ready our military family is extending their hands to those who have extended their hands to us in welcoming us to their community. It makes me proud that I have so many people stepping forward to make this event a success."

An active duty Air Force member diagnosed with MS, who remains to be anonymous, had this to say. "I volunteer to help with the walk because I think it helps to erase the old stigmas that are associated with having the disease. This is one way I feel that I can contribute to search for a cure."

There are more than 700 people afflicted by MS in the State of Hawaii alone. This year's Honolulu walk raised around \$30,000 with the help of about 750 walkers and almost 200 volunteers. The National MS Society Hawaii division's goal is \$40,000 and people can still donate through May 8 by contacting the local office.

## NEWS NOTES, From A1

appointments are highly encouraged. To schedule an appointment or for more information contact A1C Robert Simpson, at [robert.simpson@hickam.af.mil](mailto:robert.simpson@hickam.af.mil) or call 449-0680. Below is a brief summary of those ineligible to donate blood: Donated within last 2 months, cold within past 72 hours, tattoos or body piercings within past 12 months, certain vaccinations within past 4 weeks (please call for more info), dental cleaning within past 24 hours or extractions within 72 hours, been stationed or lived in Western Europe for 6 months or more (from 1980-1996), been stationed or lived in England for 3 months or more (from 1980-1996), been to various overseas locations, to include deployments (most deployments, including Afghanistan, Iraq, most of Saudi Arabia, and north Korea are deferred for 12 months).

Flu shots are not deferrals unless symptoms of having the actual virus are present.

Those who think they may be ineligible, contact the POC above, their unit blood drive representative, or Hickam Blood Program Co-Managers, Tech Sgt. Jennifer Breton at 449-2149 or Tech Sgt. Carrie Baker at 449-0259 to ascertain their eligibility. Eligibility information is available on the Hickam Blood page at <https://www.mil.hickam.af.mil/ja/limited/blooddrive/default.htm>.

**Masters degree offered** – The University of Oklahoma is offering a Master of Arts in Managerial Economics. It’s Non-thesis program can be completed in about 18 months. The UO one-week classes are very TDY/TAD friendly. For more information contact UO at 449-6364 or [aphickam@ou.edu](mailto:aphickam@ou.edu), or visit the UO website at [www.goou.ou.edu](http://www.goou.ou.edu).

**Hickam National Test Center** – The National Test Center offers College Level Examination Program exams to all members of the Department of Defense and their families. CLEP exams are free to active-duty, Reserves Guard, and family members of the Guard and Reserve forces. For all others, there is a \$20 administration fee and \$55 examination fee. The National Test Center on

Hickam will offer exams on Mondays and Wednesdays, conducting three test sessions each day. To schedule an exam call Hawaii Pacific University at 422-1032

**National Military Family Association Family Award** – Nominations are currently being accepted online ([www.nmfa.org](http://www.nmfa.org)) for the NMFA Family Award. A complete nomination includes a 500-750 word narrative and a completed Family Award Nomination Form. Essays should tell how the family being nominated works to represent the best of the military family lifestyle. For more information, call the Air-

man and Family Readiness Flight at 449-0300.

**Amateur poetry open contest** – The Talent Literary Guild is sponsoring an amateur poetry contest, free to everyone. There are 50 prizes in all, including a \$1,000 grand prize.

“We are delighted to sponsor this contest,” said Thomas Grey, poetry director.

“Poets deserve opportunities to share their work and get recognition. We hope our contest will encourage new poets to share their artistry.”

To enter send one entry of 20 lines or less to: Free Poetry Contest, 1257 Siskiyou Blvd., PMB 4,

Ashland, OR 97520, or go to [www.freecontest.com](http://www.freecontest.com) via the internet.

Poems may be written on any subject, using any style. The deadline for entering is May 15, 2006. The editors reserve the right to publish the winning poems in a pamphlet and send it free to all entrants, along with a winner’s list.

**2006 PACAF Outstanding Airmen of the Year Banquet** – Friday May 12 at the Tradewinds Enlisted club. Hosted by General Paul V. HesterPacific Air Forces commander. On the menu is Chicken Kiev and parmesan Crusted NMahi Mahi, Rosemary New Pota-

toes, Roasted Vegetables, Cesar Salad, and for dessert Choclate Tiramisu. Prices are:E1 - E4 \$33.95 Non-member - \$31.95 Member E5 - E6 & O1 - O2 \$35.95 Non-member - \$33.95 Member. All others \$36.95 Non-member - \$34.95 Member

Dress: Mess Dress/Semi-Formal Uniform or Tuxedo/Business Suit

See you First Sergeant for ticket information.

Get paid for shopping online as a “Mystery Shopper” - Every industry has a way of monitoring performance in the eyes of their customers. For television, it’s ratings. For the success of a sporting team, it’s wins.

The Army & Air Force

Exchange Service is reenergizing its focus on delivering exceptional customer service by upgrading its “Mystery Shopper” program, newly launched March 1.

Questions such as: Was the store clean? Were the associates polite? Was the item you wanted in stock? “Getting feedback from our customers is valuable to all stores and levels of management within the company.

Authorized customers may apply to become a “Mystery Shopper” via the “Mystery Shopper” link at [www.aafes.com](http://www.aafes.com). A \$30 AFFES gift certificate is awarded for each valid survey submitted.





Editor's Note: To read the complete stories and find more Air Force News, go to [www.af.mil](http://www.af.mil).

## Doolittle Raiders celebrate 64th reunion

**DAYTON, Ohio (AFPN)** – The Doolittle Raiders started the celebration of their 64th reunion this year with a solemn goblet ceremony April 18 in Dayton, Ohio. The ceremony, normally held in private, was opened to the media to honor the significance of the historical Tokyo Raid on April 18, 1942.

With eight of the 16 remaining Raiders present, retired Lt. Col. Dick Cole, 90, presided over their honored roll call and toasted Lt. Col. Horrace Crouch, the Raider who died since their last meeting.

In 1942, Lt. Col. James H. “Jimmy” Doolittle and a select team of 80 pilots, gunners, navigators and bombardiers of B-25 Mitchell bombers were assembled to execute a surprise attack over the islands of Japan. It would be the first time any of them would take off from a carrier.

Armed with enough fuel for a one-way trip to Japan and a landing in China, they planned to launch off the USS Hornet about 450 miles from Japan. The B-25s arrived from varying direc-

tions, confusing the Japanese. The bombers hit their targets and escaped Japan of their own accord.

Unfortunately, the lack of fuel and relentless weather over China forced the crews to bail out or crash-land. Two men drowned after ditching their aircraft. Eight men were captured — three of them were executed and the rest were sentenced to life imprisonment by the Japanese. The mission was a success and it turned up the spirits of Americans during World War II.

## Sacrifices of military children aren't forgotten

**WASHINGTON (AFPN)** – Children in military families make sacrifices and serve their country as much as anyone in uniform does, the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff said.

“In so many loving ways, our children quietly shoulder part of the burden, making their mom or dad understand that what they are doing is important,” said Marine Gen. Peter Pace.

Military parents often have to miss holidays and special occasions, and children are left home to worry while parents go on difficult missions, General Pace said. Military families also have to move every two or three years, making the children uproot, change schools and

say goodbye to friends, he said.

Because military children have to transition and adapt a lot, they gain great life experience and maturity, General Pace said. He recognized that, as teenagers, his own children were much more worldly than he was at that age, because he spent his entire childhood in his hometown.

In honor of April's observance of the Month of the Military Child, the general recently wrote a letter to military children, thanking them for their patience, understanding, courage and support.

See ATAF, A10

## Doolittle's Raiders celebrate 64 years



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Cecilio M. Ricardo Jr.

**Retired Master Sgt. Ed Horton honors the memory of retired Lt. Col. Horrace Crouch by turning his goblet upside down at the goblet ceremony during the 64th Doolittle Raider reunion in Dayton, Ohio on April 18.**





**Fitness and sports Center**

Basic training class is scheduled Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 7 to 8 a.m. The class is a freestyle format which includes various aerobic and straight conditioning moves. The class is open to the public, however, active duty have priority.

**America’s Armed Forces Kids Run**

Registration for this event is Monday to May 19. The Kids Run is May 20 at 8 .m. and is held at Aloha Aina Park, next to Wright Brother’s Café. Applications are available at Kidsports, the school age center, the community center or on-line at

[www.americanskidsrun.org](http://www.americanskidsrun.org). For more information, call the school age center at 448–2319 or 448–4396.

**Fit Factor**

Fit Factor is a web-based program that encourages physical activity, healthy eating selections and rewards youth between the ages of 9 to 18 years old for their efforts. Visit the community center, bldg. 1859 to enroll. Add points for Fit Factor activities online at [www.afgetfit.com](http://www.afgetfit.com) on the “My Points” page. For more information, call Kids Sports at 448–8026.

**Month of the Military Child**

There is plenty for kids to do at the CDC. April is reserved to celebrate our military children’s lives. For more information, call the child development centers at 448–9880. For information on the Youth Programs, call 448–2296.

**Professional Bowlers Tournament**

Bowlers from the northwest region compete for the PBA title April 27 and 28. This two-day event is filled with entertainment and features “Meet the Pros” and “Bowl in the Pro Am” April 27. Winners of this tournament compete for the National Bowling Association Championship April 28 from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

**Annual 54-Hole Hickam Invitational**

The Annual 54-Hole Hickam Invitation Golf tournament is May 5 to 7. The entry fee is \$145. The format for the tournament is stroke play. Entry deadline is April 21 or until the field is full. For more information, call 448-2318.

**Learn to scuba dive and swim**

Throw pool parties and have fun shaping up in this

water fitness course. For more information, call Outdoor Recreation 449–5215. Sessions are either 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. A swim test will be given the first day of class. Summer registration is available now at Hickam Harbor. For more information call outdoor recreation at 449–5215.

**Youth ocean adventure**

This program costs \$170 and is designed for kids ages 10 to 18. Youth learn to sail, kayak, surf and windsurf; water safety instruction is also provided. Classes are June 12 to 23, July 10 to 21 and July 24 to Aug. 4.

**31st Annual Hickam Spring Craft Fair**

This year’s fair is May 6 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Get ready to participate in one of the biggest craft fairs on the island. Registration begins Saturday at 8 a.m. and ends

May 5. A 15’ x 15’ space is \$65. Share the space with another participant and split the cost of \$85. All work must be handmade by the seller. For the mail-in application call the arts and craft center at 449-1568 extension 101.

**Zen meditation**

Two free Zen meditation workshops will be offered in April. The dates are April 22 and 29 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Come to the community center for a free Zazen and Chi development workshop. Participants are encouraged to wear comfortable clothing and bring towels or an exercise mat. For more information, call 449-3354.

**“Damn Yankees” Dinner & Theater**

Saturday, May 13 at Richardson Theater, Fort Shafter. The cost of \$50 per person includes a three-course

dinner at the Officers’ Club, intermission wine and dessert, transportation to and from the production and admission. Call 448 - 4608 x 15 for reservations

**National Library Month**

April is National Library Month. Hickam Library offers free access to nearly 70 databases, e.g., Student/Homework Reference, History, Biography & Literature and Business & Law. Go to the library in person or visit online at [www.AccessMyLibrary.com](http://www.AccessMyLibrary.com). For more information, call 449 - 8299.

**Story Time**

Story Time is held from 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. every other Wednesday. The theme for April 26 is “Things that GO”. Activities include story-book reading, finger plays, crafts & singing. Call 449-8299 for more information.

**ATAF, From A9**

**Air Force honors cadet of the year**

**WASHINGTON (AFPN)** – The Air Force honored its 2005 Cadet of the Year at a ceremony in the Pentagon April 17. The honoree, 2nd Lt. Janelle Jenniges, is a graduate of the University of Nebraska - Lincoln’s Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps Detachment 465. “She’s the top graduate out of all our commissioning sources,” said Lt. Gen.

Arthur J. Lichte, assistant vice chief of staff. “Every time she gets an opportunity, she moves to the front. She’s the kind of spirited person we want in our Air Force.” Lieutenant Jenniges graduated with a cumulative 3.95 grade-point average, graduating in the top 3 percent of her class, and scored 97.5 out of 100 possible points on the AFROTC physical fitness exam. She earned several other academic awards and served as the Det. 465 operations group commander. She was

also selected to attend jump school at the Air Force Academy and earned her jump wings, General Lichte said. “When I was young, my parents always pushed me to do my best,” Lieutenant Jenniges said. “I knew I wouldn’t be happy with myself, so I always made sure I was giving my best effort. I’m very much honored by this.” Once her training is complete, she’ll head to Sembach Air Base, Germany, to join the 21st Operational Weather Squadron.

**Americans in Horn of Africa use new weapon**

**SOUTHWEST ASIA (AFPN)** – American forces are using an unconventional approach to fight terrorism in the Horn of Africa, said the senior enlisted adviser at U.S. Central Command. “The weapon systems down there are well-drilling equipment and shovels, and building schools and hospitals, and training border patrols and counterterrorism

forces,” Chief Master Sgt. Curtis Brownhill said. “It’s an elaborate civil affairs and security effort that is all about building capacity and confidence.” Chief Brownhill is the command chief master sergeant of U.S. Central Command at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla. Combined Joint Task Force Horn of Africa is a small group of servicemembers who work with governments and U. S. officials in the Horn of Africa to improve life for some of the poorest people in the world. The task force is headquartered in Djibouti and

includes operations in Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Uganda, Sudan and Yemen. “We’re fighting a war down there and haven’t fired a shot,” Chief Brownhill said. “We’re taking on al Qaeda and associated movements there, and it’s the civil affairs piece that’s winning it.” The roots of the effort go back to 2002. After coalition and Afghan forces routed the Taliban from Afghanistan and fractured al Qaeda in that country, extremists “needed ungoverned spaces to squirt to, and the Horn of Africa is ripe for that,” the chief said.